

Staff Report

Subject: Approval of Adding Article VII to the Hazardous Materials Ordinance, Requiring Reporting of Hazardous Materials Spills
Author: Clint Hodges, EMA Director
Department: 20-EMA
Meeting Date: 06/17/2025
Item Description: Consideration to Require Reporting of Hazardous Materials Spills

Summary Recommendation: Approval of Adding Article VII to the Hazardous Materials Ordinance, Requiring Reporting of Hazardous Materials Spills

Executive Summary/Background:

While reviewing the Hazardous Materials ordinance for Effingham County, staff determined that a section requiring the mandatory reporting of Hazardous Materials incidents, concurrent with state/federal requirements, was needed. The addition of the proposed Article VII will require any spill or release to not only be reported to GA EPD and/or GA EPA, but also Effingham County via E-911, who will route the information to Effingham EMA, Effingham County Fire Rescue, and/or Rincon Fire Department.

Should a responsible party intentionally fail to report to Effingham E-911, if found guilty by the Magistrate Court, may be fined up to \$1,000 for each violation.

Options/Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

Recommended: Approval to Add Article VII to the Hazardous Materials Ordinance, Requiring Reporting of Hazardous Materials Spills

Other Alternative(s): Deny

Department Review: EEMA, ECFR, County Manager

Funding Source: N/A

Attachments: Draft Addition to Ordinance